



The Florida Senate

Local Funding Initiative Request

Fiscal Year 2025-2026

LFIR # 2757

1. **Project Title**

2. **Senate Sponsor**

3. **Date of Request**

4. **Project/Program Description**

Monroe County's mooring field shoreside facility program is a pivotal initiative to establish a sustainable, well-managed boating environment in the Boca Chica Basin. The project includes developing a shoreside facility to provide essential services like waste disposal and pumpout access. Secure moorings will prevent environmental damage caused by unmanaged anchoring, protect seagrass beds, and enhance boater safety. Additionally, it addresses derelict vessels and promotes responsible boating. This project is vital for preserving Monroe County's marine ecosystem and sustaining its tourism-driven economy for future generations.

5. **State Agency to receive requested funds**

State Agency contacted? Yes

6. **Amount of the Nonrecurring Request for Fiscal Year 2025-2026**

Type of Funding	Amount
Operating	0
Fixed Capital Outlay	4,330,784
Total State Funds Requested	4,330,784

7. **Total Project Cost for Fiscal Year 2025-2026 (including matching funds available for this project)**

Type of Funding	Amount	Percentage
Total State Funds Requested (from question #6)	4,330,784	57%
Matching Funds		
Federal	0	0%
State (excluding the amount of this request)	0	0%
Local	3,245,270	43%
Other	0	0%
Total Project Costs for Fiscal Year 2025-2026	7,576,054	100%

8. **Has this project previously received state funding?** No

If yes, provide the most recent instance:

Fiscal Year (yyyy-yy)	Amount		Specific Appropriation #	Vetoed
	Recurring	Nonrecurring		

9. **Is future-year funding likely to be requested?** No

a. **If yes, indicate nonrecurring amount per year.**

b. **Describe the source of funding that can be used in lieu of state funding.**



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Complete questions 10 and 11 for Fixed Capital Outlay Projects

10. Status of Construction

a. What is the current phase of the project?

- Planning
 Design
 Construction
 N/A

b. Is the project "shovel ready" (i.e permitted)?

No

c. What is the estimated start date of construction?

12/15/2025

d. What is the estimated completion date of construction?

10/29/2026

e. What funding stream will be used for ongoing operations and maintenance of the project?

The mooring field will operate as an enterprise fund, ensuring its financial sustainability by generating revenue through user fees. These funds will cover ongoing operations and maintenance, including facility upkeep, waste disposal services, and mooring inspections.

11. List the owners of the facility to receive, directly or indirectly, any fixed capital outlay funding. Include the relationship between the owners of the facility and the entity.

Monroe County Board of County Commissioners is the sole owner.

12. Details on how the requested state funds will be expended

Spending Category	Description	Amount
Administrative Costs:		
Executive Director/Project Head Salary and Benefits		0
Other Salary and Benefits		0
Expense/Equipment/Travel/Supplies/Other		0
Consultants/Contracted Services/Study		0
Operational Costs		
Salary and Benefits		0
Expense/Equipment/Travel/Supplies/Other		0
Consultants/Contracted Services/Study		0
Fixed Capital Construction/Major Renovation:		
Construction/Renovation/Land/Planning Engineering	Site work, construction of shoreside facility, seawall repair and dock install, maintenance dredging of existing channel.	4,330,784
Total State Funds Requested (must equal total from question #6)		4,330,784

13. Program Performance

a. What specific purpose or goal will be achieved by the funds requested?



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The funds requested will be used to establish a mooring field shoreside facility that will replace harmful and unmanaged anchoring practices and align with Florida Statute 327.4108 and FWC goals and priorities. This includes providing essential services such as pumpout access, waste disposal, dinghy docks, and bathhouse facilities to ensure compliance with environmental regulations, protect sensitive marine habitats like seagrass beds, enhance water quality, and improve boater safety.

b. What activities and services will be provided to meet the intended purpose of these funds?

The requested funds will enable the construction of a robust, Category 5-rated shoreside facility designed to serve the needs of the mooring field and its users. This state-of-the-art facility will feature six unisex shower/bathrooms, a dockmaster's office, a maintenance room, and a dockmaster's apartment to ensure efficient operations and oversight. Additionally, the funds will support the construction of a dinghy access dock and the maintenance dredging of the existing channel, ensuring safe and reliable shoreside access for boaters.

c. What direct services will be provided to citizens by the appropriation project?

The project will provide citizens with direct services essential for a safe, sustainable, and well-managed boating environment. These include: Shoreside Access: Secure access to the mooring field via a dinghy dock and a dredged channel. Waste Management: Vessel waste pumpout and proper waste disposal facilities to protect water quality. Bathhouse Facility: Six unisex shower/bathrooms to serve boaters and liveaboards. On-Site Management: A dockmaster's office and apartment for efficient facility operations, security, and oversight.

d. Who is the target population served by this project? How many individuals are expected to be served?

The funding will directly benefit recreational boaters and the liveaboard community. In the Keys, where affordable housing is limited, liveaboard vessels provide essential housing for many, including service sector workers, supporting both housing affordability and sustainable maritime living. This project will serve the entire boating community of the lower Florida Keys. There are greater than 26,500 vessels registered in Monroe County and over 73,600 vessels registered in neighboring Miami-Dade county.

e. What is the expected benefit or outcome of this project? What is the methodology by which this outcome will be measured?

The shoreside facility is essential to the new mooring field, ending harmful anchoring practices that damage seagrass beds and harm Monroe County's marine ecosystem. It ensures waste disposal, monitors vessels for compliance and dereliction, and promotes responsible boating. Secure moorings attract boaters, provide affordable housing for liveaboards, boost tourism, and preserve vital habitats. The facility also supports workforce retention, sustaining businesses and tourism while protecting the local economy.

f. What are the suggested penalties that the contracting agency may consider in addition to its standard penalties for failing to meet deliverables or performance measures provided for in the contract?

Funding award can be premised on completion of project. If the project is not completed then funding can be reduced or withheld.

14. Is this project related to mitigation, response, or recovery from a natural disaster? No

a. If Yes, what phase best describes the project?

- Mitigation (reducing or eliminating potential loss of life or property)
- Response (addressing the immediate and short-term effects of a natural disaster)
- Recovery (assisting communities return to normal operations, including rebuilding damaged infrastructure)

b. Name of the natural disaster (or Executive Order # for events not under a federal declaration):

15. Has the entity applied for or received federal assistance for this project?



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- Yes, Applied
- Yes, Received
- No
- No, but intends to apply

a. If yes, provide the FEMA project worksheet ID#:

b. Provide the total project cost listed on the FEMA project worksheet:

16. Has the entity applied for or received state assistance for this project (other than this request)?

- Yes, Applied
- Yes, Received
- No
- No, but intends to apply

a. If yes, specify the program and state agency (ex. Local Government Emergency Bridge Loan, Department of Commerce):

17. Requester Contact Information

a. First Name **Last Name**

b. Organization

c. E-mail Address

d. Phone Number **Ext.**

18. Recipient Contact Information

a. Organization

b. Municipality and County

c. Organization Type

- For Profit Entity
- Non Profit 501(c)(3)
- Non Profit 501(c)(4)
- Local Entity



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University or College

Other (please specify)

d. First Name Last Name

e. E-mail Address

f. Phone Number Ext.

19. Lobbyist Contact Information

a. Name

b. Firm Name

c. E-mail Address

d. Phone Number

The information provided will be posted to the Florida Senate website for public viewing if sponsored by a Senator.